CONCERN
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Deadline February 1, 1959

This new, short-deadline service presents a combination of mailings previously provided for leaders in the fields of Christian Social Relations by three World Service Agencies of The Methodist Church.

It is further evidence of efforts toward coordination and economy in the development of a more effective program by these agencies through the Interboard Commission on Christian Social Relations.

The new *Contact* service combines the *Courier* newsletter of the Board of World Peace, the *Clipsheet* and *Contact* services of the Board of Temperance and general mailings of the Board of Social & Economic Relations.

It is designed to provide short-deadline news on fast breaking national and international issues, plus depth reporting and analysis from a Christian perspective.

Contact's primary audience is the conference and district leaders whose work with the three sponsoring boards necessitates a close "contact" with and knowledge of national and international issues. Its pages will also contain specific suggestions for implementing a district and conference program in the Christian Social Relations fields. Its pages will also have real value for local church leaders as a supplement to the emphasis on promotion and methods now found in *The Methodist Story* and in the Christian Social Relations section of *The Methodist Woman.*

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CONTACT

combining services of the

- GENERAL BOARD OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS
- GENERAL BOARD OF WORLD PEACE
- GENERAL BOARD OF TEMPERANCE

of The Methodist Church

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1959-60

CONTACT

sponsored jointly by three World Service agencies of The Methodist Church

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. . . at your service

Materials reviewed below have been prepared cooperatively by the three boards sponsoring Contact for use by leaders in the field of Christian Social Relations. All are available from Service Department, 100 Maryland Avenue, Northeast, Washington 2, D. C.

HANDBOOK A Comprehensive summary of background information, action projects and program resources has been compiled in a Christian Social Relations handbook titled WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR.

The original manuscript was prepared by Dr. Lycurgus M. Starkey, Jr., pastor of the Swope Park Methodist Church, Kansas City, Missouri. He is chairman of the Southwest Missouri Conference Board of Christian Social Relations. The material was then edited and revised by staff members of all three Boards.

Chapter headings indicate the handbook's contents, "Is Your Religion Solitary or Social," "What Has the Church Been Doing?" "The Church Organizes for Action," "What One Church Can Do," "The Commission on Christian Social Relations at Work," "Getting the Message Across."

There is also a complete listing of resources, printed and audio visual, in the fields of temperance, world peace and social and economic relations.

Copies of the 36 page handbook are twenty-five cents each.

FILMSTRIP To provide a basis for inspiration and discussion of the needs in the Christian Social Relations fields, a full color filmstrip titled A NEW KIND OF BUILDING has been produced.

The filmstrip tells the story of a church that has just completed a new educational building, but isn't "doing anything about the community." A group in the church talks over their concern with the pastor, then committees look into and report on community problems, and the way other churches are meeting them.

Color for the filmstrip is excellent, and a recording and script accompany each print. This is an excellent tool for "getting started" with a group that wants to do something about social issues.

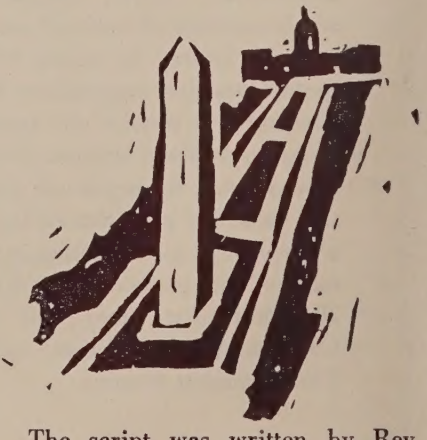
Cost is $6.00 for the filmstrip, record and script.

TURNOVER CHART This audio-visual is an attempt to present in graphic form a listing of the important issues related to Christian Social Relations concern.

It is titled YOUR CHURCH SERVES ITS COMMUNITY AND WORLD.

A detailed script has been prepared to give a group leader plenty of background information and resource material to lead a thorough discussion on specific social issues.

The turnover chart was prepared as a cooperative venture by the three general, social action boards, Christian Action Council of South Carolina and the Board of Social and Economic Relations of the South Carolina Annual Conference.



The script was written by Rev. Bryan Crenshaw and Rev. Howard McClain. It includes a comprehensive bibliography covering five pages.

(please turn to page 15)

WORLD PEACE

Will the draft continue? A spokesman for the House Armed Services Committee said on January 8 that a bill to continue the draft four more years would be the committee's first order of business this year. Consideration of the matter will begin early in February. His opinion was that the bill would pass despite opposition. Before accepting his opinion read the article on conscription on page below.

The issue is engaged at two levels: the long-range suitability of the draft and, under rapidly changing conditions, closing off the problem too long by a four-year decision.

The staff of the Board of World Peace recommends the following action:

1) Personal letters sent at once to your representative and your two senators expressing your convictions.
2) Copies of resolutions adopted by local, district, conference or interchurch groups directed to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees for inclusion in their record.

WORLD PEACE

THE CHURCH AND PEACETIME CONSCRIPTION

When the original draft act was adopted in 1940, it was only over the strenuous objection of the churches and their members who were in the front ranks of the opposition. Nineteen years later similar legislation—now called the Universal Military Service and Training Act—is still on the statute books, and the Defense Department is asking for a four-year extension of the government's power to conscript men.

What has happened in the intervening years was accurately predicted in 1945 by Halford Hoskins when he wrote in the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science: "The results of one year's training will not greatly affect the body politic and even after five or ten years no striking change in public outlook may be apparent. Nevertheless, in the course of a generation the effects will have become cumulative even if they have grown imperceptibly . . . and military considerations may be expected to enter more and more into party politics, governmental policy, and economic and social life."

Newspapermen are writing that the four-year draft extension being asked by military leaders will probably be approved, despite growing opposition. If this happens, it will be because of the failure of the American people to become sufficiently concerned about the dangers and inequities in the law and its application.

An article by Louis Cassels in Nation's Business for November 1958 opposes an extension of the present law for two reasons:

"1. Peacetime conscription is deeply repugnant to American traditions. It is tolerated by public opinion only when people are satisfied that the draft is necessary and that it is being carried out in a way that is scrupulously fair. Millions of Americans today are not satisfied on either of these points.

"2. Radical changes in military strategy and manpower requirements have taken place since the present draft and reserve laws were enacted. In the words of Thomas R. Reid, Ford Motor Company executive who heads the manpower subcommittee of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, the assumptions on which the 1955 laws were based are now 'obsolete.' "

A different criticism was recently voiced by Professor John K. Galbraith of Harvard who declared that "the draft survives principally as a device by which we use compulsion to get young men to serve at less than the market rate of pay. We shift the cost of military service from the well-to-do taxpayer, who benefits by

lower taxes, to the impecunious young draftee."

Writing in The Nation for January 10, 1959, Associate Dean John C. Esty, Jr., of Amherst College, a captain in the Air Force Reserve, analyzes the plight of today's male college student and concludes:

"I am aware that our military manpower policy has been criticized on the bases of unconstitutionality, inadequacy, waste and expense. It should be. But about these grounds I am not especially informed, and can only grumble. I do know, however, of the draft law's effect on college students, and if they are considered to be an important segment of the society, then someone had better pay attention to their perspective. From that perspective, the status quo is absolutely unviable, the corruption of "universal" service is corrupting their sense of duty, uncertainty is making cynics of them, and their talents and training are deliberately turned from the service of their country." Dean Esty's final words are a warning: "It is not yet stylish to be unpatriotic, but the college student can't hold out forever."

From the viewpoint of the churches, there are equally compelling reasons for a hard look at the proposal to continue the drafting of men into military service. At the time of World War I, Clifford Allen, president of the famous "No Conscription Fellowship" in Great Britain, asserted: War "involves actions that are so fundamental, and results that are so irreparable, that only the most passionate belief in the righteousness of a cause can justify a man in giving up his life or inflicting death. It is a fatal debasement of human dignity to force men to do these things against their will or without conviction as to the justice of their actions."

In the pamphlet "Conscription and Conscience," in 1944 A. J. Muste wrote of young men being drafted: "At a critical period in their adolescence, at a most impressionable age, they are subjected to training based on an acceptance of militarism and on a philosophy of mechnical, unquestioning obedience which is bound to unfit them for responsible citizenship in a democracy."

However, lest we be tempted to consider this a peculiarly pacifistic view, let us turn to August B. Hollingshead who, in study on "Adjustment to Military Life" in the American Journal of Sociology for March 6, 1946, asserted:

"The perfectly trained soldier is one who has had his civilian initiative reduced to zero. In the process the self becomes identified with the institution and dependent upon it for direction and stimulation. The ideally adjusted soldier would be a military dependent who looked to the institution for all his personal, social and emotional satisfaction . . . For these reasons the recruit must be remade; as any old sergeant knows, 'a recruit is not worth a damn until he has been broken.' "

An honest look at conscription reveals in it elements akin to slavery. It takes away a substantial degree of the freedom of an individual and regiments his mental activity and his physical response. Instead of exploiting him in the interest of an owner as does slavery, it exploits him for ends determined by the State. To further this purpose, the State asserts that it can properly relieve him of his responsibility to God as a free moral agent. That is why he is asked to take an oath upon induction which calls for unqualified obedience to his superior officers without any reservation of conscience, even against "atrocities" or "war crimes."

For these reasons, many churchmen today are actively opposing the tendency to accept military conscription as a permanent feature of American life. They do not believe it is necessary, and they are gravely concerned about its consequences. It may well lead to the acceptance of war and armaments as inevitable, a proposition which contradicts the Christian idea of God and denies the possibility of the redemption of man.

The stand of the General Conference against "any system of peacetime universal military training" is finding increasing support among leaders from many walks of life. Great Britain has decided to end compulsory National Service after 1960. Calling for a volunteer system during the election campaign of 1956, Adlai Stevenson at Youngstown, Ohio, declared: ". . . We need more and more today a type of military personnel—experienced and professional—which our present draft system does not give us." Louis Cassels concludes his article in Nation's Business with these words: "Obviously, both the draft and reserve laws have already been amended by history. The only question now is whether Congress will lend history a hand, and try to put our military manpower statutes on a fair and rational footing."

A constructive alternative has been proposed by Walter Reuther in the form of a comprehensive Federal scholarship program whose recipients would constitute a trained reserve of civilian manpower. These young people would serve in other lands as teachers and technicians, thus implementing present programs of economic and technical assistance designed to lift standards of life in underdeveloped areas. They would also serve at home in meeting shortages of trained personnel in crucial vocational fields, such as teaching.

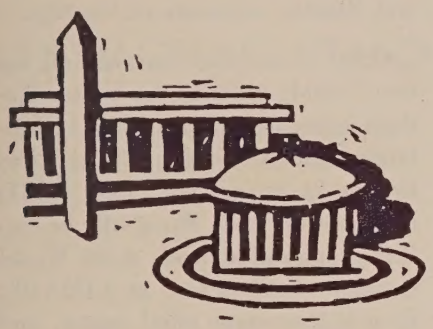
Now is the time for action by concerned Christians who wish to see an end to the draft. The Selective Service structure is now a part of our permanent law. However, the authority of the government to conscript men into the armed forces expires on June 30, 1959. So long as Congress appropriates money for that purpose, draft boards will continue to register and classify men on a standby basis.

A strong and widespread expression of opposition to the continued drafting of men, added to the growing criticism and dissatisfaction over the actual functioning of the law, may well determine the course of Congressional action. Here is one of the issues on which Christian opinion can be registered with real hope of decisively and significantly influencing national policy.

WHAT WOULD A WORLD-MINDED CONGRESS BE?

What may we expect of the 86th Congress, especially in regard to matters of foreign policy?

The writer, trying to do an honest reportorial job, first read articles in



half a dozen publications dealing with this topic. Then, he turned and reread personal letters received the past week from 34 Representatives and 14 Senators (actual count). Their variety of viewpoint and conviction may be guessed. After these two experiences, imagine what—if anything—you would write!

The opening days of the current session forecast certain major realities about our legislative houses. The total body is more conservative than the views of individual Congressmen. The precedents of seniority rights, party control and other time-honored legislative practices enable procedure to outflank substance, as in the case of civil rights. Meanwhile, the ardor of freshmen legislators cools as their status accumulates. Many liberals who looked with enthusiasm at a supposed housecleaning at the polls last November, failed to look with equal candor at procedures and precedents. They are by now gaining a better wisdom.

Nevertheless, there is little question that the 86th Congress is more world-minded than any of its predecessors. Likewise, it may not be afraid to spend adequately. But these alone are no grounds for unbridled hope.

If Congress becomes obsessed with the military missiles race, the only bulge in the budget may merely heighten world tension and further frighten the little nations in their helplessness. Moreover, big contracts, with the accompanying rise in employment and business is a huge temptation in itself. Security billions are not only community trade builders; they are the strongest possible tool to upend a recession.

Regardless of how many additional billions Secretary of Defense McElroy requests, when you hear your elected favorite debate the defense budget not alone by charts comparing Russia and our missile race, but in terms of a complete equation, involving minimum necessary preparedness needs, an expanded aid program, the military burden on the budgets of a score of our smaller allies, adequate support for the UN and world development, and kindred topics, you will know that sagacity has been born among the Senators.

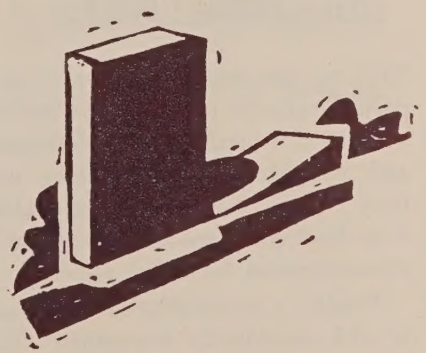
In short, if this proves to be a world-minded Congress you will not only see minor adjustments and advances. You will see a comprehensive review of our foreign policy and an appraisal of military security as the cornerstone of national defense and well-being in an era of total war. For, while such war has become both irrational and morally intolerable, it yet commands most of the productive effort and wealth of our civilization.

A truly world-minded Congress will take up seriously the task of disarmament as the most pressing business of our times, but which has now been reduced in staff and budget to a shoestring operation hardly worthy of a first class county. With the hearings on surprise attack at Geneva failing and with the crucial hearings on testings apparently part way to limited success, we would do well to heed the warnings of Noel-Baker in "The Arms Race." After a section describing the defections of Russia in negotiations, he turns to certain key disarmament hearings of recent years in which Britain or the United States suddenly cooled to workable compromises or seeing the opposition forces ready to concur re-opened the case to gain further tactical advantage.

Let the legislators likewise look earnestly at strengthening the civilian space agency. This should be done both directly with sufficient funds for expanded operation and indirectly by supporting the U. N. in the internationalizing of outer space under an effective control agency.

Another substantial bit of business that this Congress might well attempt would be to split military and economic aid programs. Despite momentary disadvantages to the non-military that might ensue, the overall gain would be great as the true proportions of each became indelibly apparent to our entire citizenry.

What about sufficient bank credits, unilaterally or through U. N. agencies, for both new and developing countries, in size all the way from Ghana to India? Notwithstanding our favored position, United States investments abroad, both public and private, are proportionately about one-fifteenth that of Great Britain in 1910. Preliminary plans underway on Capitol Hill for substantial bank credits



for Latin America look good and must not be laid aside. Likewise, long-term credits to India in ample amounts need to be worked out. Previous loans have been too small and on short terms ranging usually from two to ten years. Thus little real benefit results, as re-payments begin before projects are completed.

Is it not correct that the European loans, particularly to the railroads, that greatly helped America in our expansion period averaged fifty-year terms?

Assuredly we must see that there are two great powers in the East, China *and India;* not one; unless grave peril is to result. Meanwhile, the USSR is increasingly critical of Nehru. Neither let us point the finger of scorn at India's neutralism, since the United States set her good precedent for this with our official policy of neutrality which prevailed for nearly fifteen years prior to World War II.

Then, too, there are matters pertaining to education. These are knotty problems ranging all the way from buildings and salaries for teachers to the current campaign for more technicians and scientists. Of course, to equal in number Russia's candidates in these occupations would be quite a feat on our part, considering our traditions. As in the case of medicine, women in Russia enroll in great numbers as engineers and scientists. In America, these roles normally appear predominantly to male students, so that our potential is reduced by nearly

50% at the outset. The really important concern, however, is whether we aim to educate mere technicians and practitioners; or whether we truly believe that our primary aim is to develop citizens of maturity and comprehension for a free society.

Finally, a world-minded Congress would continually strengthen the U. N. and other agencies of truly international scope. This would mean the ratification of some covenants and the devising of others. It would mean, furthermore, some need to be effectual as well as nominal. An example is the international court of justice. We have deposited credentials recognizing its jurisdiction, but only in cases and matters which we shall occasionally permit. The original reservations were necessary both for our protection and to secure acceptance by cautious lawmakers. But reservations are outgrown; endorsements need strengthening; and support must ultimately become evident and actual.

Quotable Quotes

"Both in international politics and in religion . . . we should confront the new world with intellectual audacity—with minds unconstricted by fear—looking forward to the religious conflict as one that is full of hope, and, in the political realm, looking forward to the spread of real freedom and autonomy amongst the nations, feeling that these things cannot come quickly enough for us and that the cause of the West gains more from them than it would from the creation of new satellites.

"The democracies are suffering from an optical illusion if they are afraid of the kind of world that is now developing."

—Dr. Herbert Butterfield, 10/3/58, Cambridge University, speaking at American University new School of International Service.

"What has often been said must be said again. The Christian Churches of the United States and their Councils not only have the right but also the duty to study and comment upon issues, no matter how controversial, in the realm of politics, economics, and social affairs, in view of their common faith in Jesus Christ as both Lord and Savior. For all matters of concern for human beings are matters of concern to the churches and the churches' Lord. The Study Conference at Cleveland has performed a valuable function in helping the churches and their members carry forward the process of the American people's development of their foreign policy."

—From a resolution of the General Board of the National Council of Churches, dealing with the Cleveland Study Conference.

CHURCHMEN'S STUDY TOUR

The Churchmen's Study tour of Western Europe and Russia from July 14 to Aug. 25 has a broad appeal for both laymen and pastors. The director is Rev. Daniel E. Taylor, general secretary of the Board of World Peace.

Dr. Martin Niemoeller, noted German pastor, will travel with the group as briefings leader during the Berlin and Russian segments of the trip.

Other distinctive features of the tour include visits to the United Nations agencies in Europe and consultations with key peace and political leaders in several countries. NATO headquarters near Paris will be visited. Stops will be made at the World Council of Churches, at CIMADE, French Protestant relief center, and at Church World service.

Persons interested in peace, international affairs and ecumenical Christian work are invited to join the tour. Folders and full information will be sent on request.

TRAVEL STUDY TOUR OF MEXICO

The Detroit Conference Board of Christian Social Relations is extending to Methodists from other conferences an invitation to join in a tour of Mexico June 24-July 18.

With the purposes of understanding our neighbor to the south and of sharing our concern for national and world improvement toward peace, the group of 30 will acquaint itself with Mexico's history, present-day living and thinking, and the work of the United Nations in Mexico. The itinerary, originating at San Antonio, includes Monterrey, Mexico City, Acapulco, the UNESCO center at Patzcuaro, Guadalajara and other cities.

Information and application may be secured from the following: Rev. Paul M. Cargo, Northville, Mich. The tour is recommended by the General Board of World Peace.

Social and Economic Relations concerns are evident in two items of pending legislation before this session of Congress.

One is civil rights legislation. Each annual conference and local church should be ready to assess quickly the legislation proposed and to send in a judgment to the Congress on what should be done.

The second legislation item will deal with labor. There are some definite proposals coming before this Congress and a careful evaluation should be made of them. If a Board in the annual conference or local church wants help to do this, write the General Board. In later issues of CONTACT a study will be presented. But, in the meantime, we will be glad to start the consultations by mail, or if you are holding discussions we will try to fit in a personal visit.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS

COURAGEOUS STAND IN ATLANTA

Nothing has created a greater satisfaction among those who work diligently for a peaceful and valid settlement of the racial crisis in the United States than the second statement of Atlanta, Georgia ministers. This statement by 312 ministers is called "Out of Conviction" and picks up the principles of the earlier manifesto and puts them into a framework validated by history which makes the new manifesto a usable document for discussion.

The Six Principles

1. Freedom of speech must at all cost be preserved.

2. As Americans and as religious leaders we have an obligation to obey the law.

3. The public school system must not be destroyed.

4. Hatred and scorn for those of another race, or for those who hold a position different from our own can never be justified.

5. Communication between responsible leaders of the races must be maintained.

6. Racial difficulties cannot be solved in our own strength or in human wisdom, but through prayer and in obedience to the will of God.

Three courses of action are now recommended which might well be used in most communities in this nation.

1. Churches and synagogues should encourage and promote within their fellowship a free and intelligent discussion of racial issues on a moral, spirtiual, and legal point of view.

2. An appeal should be made to community and state leaders to give their most creative thought to maintaining a sound public school plan which should be consistent with the law of the land, respects and preserves the rights of all citizens, and assures the preservation of the system of public education.

3. A citizens commission to preserve harmony of the community should be appointed. This would involve a representative group of business, civic, educational, political, and religious leadership to work together to promote harmony and find solutions to racial problems.

These ideas might well become the center of good and creative discussion on many other issues.

Courage begets courage and it was very shortly after the issuance of this second manifesto by the Clergy that 419 doctors of the Atlanta area emphatically called for the preservation of the public school system by whatever legal steps are necessary.

It is in these constructive and systematic ways that good solutions will be found to the most difficult problems. The light of hope has been lit as courage is manifest the road ahead is brighter.

Copies of the Atlanta Manifesto are available from the Board of Social and Economic Relations.

THE HON. ERNEST J. WILKINS

It was a great shock to learn of the sudden death of Mr. Wilkins while copy was being prepared for this issue of CONTACT. We pay tribute to the memory of an outstanding man who was the first of his race to achieve a cabinet post in a Federal Administration, the first to become the president of the judicial council of The Methodist Church, which is the highest office a layman can attain. He was the one man in the Methodist Church who symbolized in his total being the tremendous advance that the Negro people have made.

He is best known to the General Secretary of the Board who at the time of his appointment to Washington as Assistant Secretary of Labor to President Eisenhower, he was concerned not about his own destiny and that of his race, but about his responsibility as a Methodist Christian. His question was, "How

can I relate my Christian convictions to the decisions which I will have to make which will affect the lives of hundreds of thousands of people? With concern Mr. Wilkins distinguished himself in a superb way as a Christian in the very center of high places of decision.

He was serving currently as a member of the Civil Rights Commission, and had distinguished himself in the initial hearings of that Commission.

It is with great sense of loss that we acknowledge his death and commemorate his memory. It is only in the realization of the great qualities of the man that we take comfort and strength, and extend to Mrs. Wilkins and the family, our deepest sympathy.

NEW DEPT. OF INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS

The General Board of Social and Economic Relations announces that the Reverend Emerson W. Smith, who for seven years had a tremendous success as the chaplain to industry in the New England area, has joined the Board as the Associate Secretary, with a special responsibility for the Department of Industrial and Agricultural Relations.

He is available to counsel in the Annual Conferences, local churches, episcopal areas, and the jurisdiction on creative programs in Industrial Relations. He has made a specialty of conciliation in industrial disputes. If communities served by Methodist Churches face industrial strife Mr. Smith is available for on the spot service.

LEGISLATION

The General Board of Social and Economic Relations has supported officially House of Representatives Bill #134 submitted by Representative Keogh.

The Bill is to provide a deduction for income tax purposes for disabled individuals and expenses for transportation to and from work; and to provide an additional exemption for income tax purposes to a taxpayer or spouse who is physically or mentally incapable of caring for himself. This Bill is supported by 40 or 50 national business, labor, philanthropic, religious organizations.

Return of Alien Property

The General Board also supports the return of alien property held by the United States since the Second World War. The Board said: "Congress be urged to maintain the traditional position of the United States and make prompt return of property to German and Japanese nationals vested during World War II."

Both these actions should receive support from Annual Conferences and Local Churches. They are widely supported by leading persons and groups across the nation.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The program entitled "Meals on Wheels" which is a project to provide low cost meals for aged and handicapped individuals and which is being successfully undertaken in communities such as Columbus, Ohio, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, warrants the very close examination of church people. The General Board commends it to Methodists. It is a practical illustration of providing the food for the hungry, drink for

the thirsty, and support for those who are in difficulty. Information on this project can be obtained from Mrs. Carl G. Jackson, President of Meals on Wheels, 4660 North High Street, Columbus 14, Ohio, or to Mrs. Margaret Toy, The Lighthouse, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

DALLAS, TEXAS
YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS IT

Eight agencies of the Church are cooperating in the first international conference on human relations sponsored by The Methodist Church. The date, August 31-September 4, 1959. The place, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. The coordinating group is the Board of Social and Economic Relations and the executive director is A. Dudley Ward.

All divisions of the Board of Missions, and the Board of Education, the Board of Lay Activities, the Commission on Chaplains, and the Board of Social and Economic Relations are now prepared to receive applications from those who want to attend the Conference.

The Conference office is Room 305, 740 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.

The three questions for the Conference are:

1. What is our Christian witness on Race?

2. What is the nature of the present racial crisis in our nation and the world?

3. What can Methodists do?

Many special events such as a barbecue, the story of brotherhood in word and song by national and international artists, top drawer speakers, will all converge to make this the Conference to attend in the fall of 1959. This is the Quadrennium of Human Relations. Get your applications in early. There will be room for 1200 delegates.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE

The three Social Action Boards have agreed to develop a new Leadership Training Program on Social Action for use in Leadership Training Schools in the Districts and Annual Conferences. It will be available soon, and if you are scheduling a training school for church school and other workers, this course ought to be offered.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE VISITATIONS

The staff and members of the Board are now booking Annual Conference appearances. If you wish a visit from the Board's representatives, please let us know now, the schedule is already crowded.

RACE RELATIONS SUNDAY AND BROTHERHOOD WEEK

February is the month for race relations and brotherhood. The interdenominational message on race relations from the National Council of Churches is now available through the Department of Race Relations of the National Council, 295 Fourth Avenue, New York, New York, or the General Board in Chicago.

The Board offers this year its own book *The Road to Brotherhood* which will be described more fully in another section of this issue, The Methodist Church and Race, and the very popular statement "The Bible Speaks on Race."

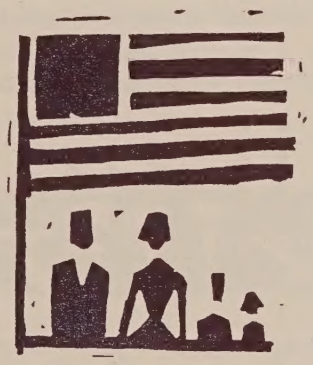
The Board also offers advice and council upon personal request, and we will supply you with names of leaders, material, visual aids, and other resources for your race relations meetings.

LEARNING BY DOING IN POLITICAL LIFE

In the election of November 1958, the Board of Christian Social Relations in the Wisconsin Conference conducted an interesting experiment. They sent out a questionnaire on the election issue to all candidates for the House of Representatives and Senate about a month before the election. The replies on the questions asked of the representatives were tabulated and sent to all ministers of the Conference. The suggestion was made that a bulletin-insert be prepared giving information about the candidates.

The Board learned a few things. One was, that it would be highly worthwhile to have a committee, call personally upon the candidates. In this way, answers would be gotten more adequately.

They also learned about a negative factor. In one church there were serious repercussions because the bulletin-insert carried news of only



one candidate for the House from that district, the other candidate had not replied. This should be avoided at all costs. Both parties ought to be presented.

CONFERENCE ACTION ON RACE RELATIONS

The Rock River Conference authorized the Conference Board of Social and Economic Relations to circulate a questionnaire to all churches of the conference. This was designed both to get facts and to educate in Brotherhood.

The results of the questionnaire are to be published, reported to the churches and to the annual conference for discussion and action. The questionnaire has three parts: One for churches in communities occupied by persons of only one race; two for churches in interracial commu-

nities; and three for all the churches. It has been very well framed and the results will be most interesting. We will publish them in future issues of CONTACT. If you want a copy of the questionnaire write to the General Board.

THE BISHOP'S STATEMENT

A courageous and forthright statement was issued by the Council of Bishops on November 13, 1958, at their meeting. They paid tribute to the 50th Anniversary of "The Social Creed" and made it very clear that they aligned themselves strongly with four basic things which have been part of the Methodist Social Creed and tradition.

1. Equal rights and complete justice for all men in all stages of life.

2. The principle of reconciliation and arbitration for industrial dissentions.

3. A living wage in every industry.

4. The recognition of the Golden Rule and the mind of Christ as the supreme law of society and a sure remedy for all social ills.

The Bishops reaffirmed their support of the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States relative to segregation, and called upon

Methodist people to make the necessary adjustments in good faith and brotherliness.

The Bishops emphasized also the problems of juvenile delinquency which is now a central program undertaking.

Copies of the Bishop's Statement are available through the Service Department, 100 Maryland Avenue, Northeast, Washington 2, D. C., or 740 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.

50th ANNIVERSARY OF "THE SOCIAL CREED"

In commemoration of this great event in 1958 a special printing of "The Social Creed" dedicated to 96 year old Bishop Herbert Welch, who was one of the original writers of the Creed, has been made. You can have a copy free.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE INSTITUTES

The Board announces the following Interracial, Industrial and Agricultural Conferences.

Interracial

IN TENNESSEE, February 5-7, 1959 with Bishop Roy H. Short and Bishop Edgar A. Love of Morristown, Tennessee, the conference is on the theme: CHRISTIAN BASIS FOR EXPANSION OF THE COOPERATION BETWEEN EAST TENNESSEE AND HOLSTON CONFERENCES with the following topics:

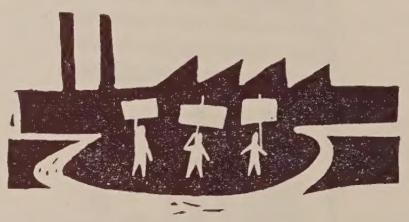
1. METHODIST RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNITY ISSUES: Health, Housing, Recreation; II. METHODIST RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNITY ISSUES: Education and Employment; III. PREPARING PEOPLE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE; IV. METHODIST STRATEGY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS; V. METHODIST STRATEGY IN CHANGING COMMUNITIES, VI. STRATEGY OF COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION IN HOLSTON AND EAST TENNESSEE CONFERENCES.

COLUMBUS, OHIO with Bishop Hazen G. Werner and Bishop Matthew W. Clair, Jr. on April 2, 3, 4, 1959 is on the theme: OHIO METHODISM AND THE INCLUSIVE CHURCH. The expected attendance, 500 delegates. The following persons are participating: Dr. Ralph Sockman; Mr. Roy Wilkins, of the NAACP; Mrs. Dorothy Dolbey, councilwoman of the City of Cincinnati; Mrs. Rosa Page Welch, singer and music leader; Dr. Russell Dynes, sociologist.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA (Bishop Gerald Kennedy, January 12-13, 1959). The theme was: THE CHURCH AND DISCRIMMINATION, and the three areas of investigation were: I. THE DEFINITION OF THE PROBLEM; II. SOME STEPS TOWARD COMMUNITY ACTION; III. DEFINING THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH.

Industrial Relations

An Industrial Relations Conference was held for St. Louis Methodism, January 22, 1959, to better acquaint ministers, lay leaders, and church officers with the relevance of Christian ethics to industrial issues. A carefully planned plant tour of the Monsanto Chemical Company



with a management presentation, followed by a dinner at the Salem Methodsit Church was part of the program. It concluded with a panel of church, labor, and management leaders discussing their responsible roles in contemporary industrial society.

Labor-Management-Church Workshops, January 27-29, 1959, were held in Shreveport, Baton Rouge, and Lake Charles, Louisiana. Theme: "Christian Responsibility in Industrial Life." Local key leaders of both labor and management participated with the church in discussions.

An Industrial Relations Conference will be held in Peoria, Illinois, on February 23, 1959. This is for the Illinois Conference which begins with a plant tour of Caterpillar Tractor Company in Peoria, and a management presentation on: "Management looks to its Community Responsibility" will be held at the East Peoria Church. In the evening the guest speaker will be Victor Reuther, Assistant to the President Walter Reuther, United Auto Workers.

On March 6, 1959, the Rock River Conference presents a program at the Chicago Temple on "The Role of the Working Woman." The program will include discussion groups, subject presentation by guest speaker and dinner. The Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service and the Wesleyan Service Guild are cooperating with the Conference and General Board of Social and Economic Relations.

Follow-up of Cincinnati

On April 4th in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, there will be a "Little Cincinnati" Conference to give a picture of the problems of the "Christian and His Church in a Changing Industrial Order."

There will be a Students Economic Conference on March 20-22, 1959, in Houston, Texas, under the sponsorship of the Texas Student Movement and this General Board. This is also in part a follow-up of the Cincinnati Conference.

Other Conferences beginning to plan "Cincinnati" follow-ups are: Idaho, Texas, Iowa, New England, and New England Southern.

Agricultural Seminar

The Board of Social and Economic Relations in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, in cooperation with the General Board sponsored an Agricultural Seminar on January 23, 1959, for Methodist leaders interested in agriculture from the church point-of-view. Agricultural economic experts presented some of the salient issues confronting the Christian farmer and all participated in discussion groups before and after the dinner held at the Poplar Bluff Methodist Church.

Temperance legislation will come before members of the 86th Congress via several major bills already introduced:

ALCOHOL ADVERTISING BILL

Prominent among these has been the introduction of H. R. 2221 by Congressman Eugene Siler (R, Ky.) which would virtually do away with alcohol advertising. Congressman Siler has been lending his support for similar legislation in past sessions of Congress, but there is greater promise of favorable consideration this time.

Such an advertising bill would make it unlawful for any kind of alcoholic beverage advertising to cross a state line by any kind of transportation, the mails, or by radio or TV. A first violation calls for a minimum fine of $100. The maximum is $1,000. Subsequent offences will bring imprisonment for one year.

Proponents of such legislation have continually insisted that this is not a measure to prohibit the manufacture or sale of alcoholic beverages. They point out that this is simply a further measure needed to control an industry that has demonstrated its need for numerous types of controls.

The bill has now been referred to the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee pending further action.

SERVICE OF ALCOHOL ON AIRLINES

The 85th Congress saw several bills introduced relating to alcohol service on the airlines. Thus far in the 86th legislature, H.R. 169 has been introduced by Congressman Thomas J. Lane (D, Mass.) which would prohibit the selling or otherwise furnishing any kind of alcoholic drink to passengers while in flight in the United States. It is now pending further action by the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. Proponents hope for an early hearing.

It is expected that many more Congressmen will lend their support to church groups, the pilots and stewards' association, and other groups during this session of Congress.

ALCOHOLISM LEGISLATION

Two important measures having to do with alcoholism are already up for consideration. The unprecedented "epidemic" of alcoholism now sweeping the United States (latest Yale Alcohol Studies figures are 5,015,000 alcoholics) has alerted the entire nation to seek ways to curb this major mental health disease.

Senator Olin D. Johnston (D., S. C.) on January 9th introduced a joint resolution concerning alcoholism which has been referred to the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. The resolution calls for the establishment of a 15-man Commission appointed by the executive and legislative branches of the government to study the problem of alcoholism in the United States. The Commission is charged to make recommendations for more adequate facilities for treatment, rehabilitation, cure and prevention.

Experts in the field of alcoholism who have been working for years to attempt to stem the tide of this disease have been encouraged by the possibility of such a Government Commission.

A second alcoholism measure, H. R. 1263, introduced by Representative George Huddleston (D, Ala), calls for the establishment of a Medical Advisory Committee on Alcoholism in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Congressmen introduced a similar bill in the 85th Congress, but the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce did not act favorably on it. More favorable consideration is expected in this Congress.

GOVERNMENT LOTTERY MEASURES

The House Committee on Ways and Means will be considering a bill, H.R. 2534, calling for the establishment of a government lottery, intro-

TEMPERANCE

duced by Congressman Paul Fino (R., N. Y.). Representative Fino has been advocating such a lottery for several years, but his bill has never been given serious consideration by past sessions of Congress.

Representative Albert H. Bosch (R., N. Y.) has also introduced House Resolution 25, calling for a select five man House committee to study the advisability of using a government conducted lottery to raise additional revenue for the government. Although the 86th Congress faces increased demands for additional funds, it is not expected that the House Rules Committee will act on this resolution.

OBSCENE LITERATURE

Already a number of bills have been introduced which would ban obscene and lewd publications from the mails. H. R. 1154, introduced by Representative Abraham J. Multer (D., N. Y.) has been referred to the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Two others H. R. 1877 and 2234, introduced by Representatives Richard H. Poff (R., Va.) and Basil Whitener (D., N. C.) respectively have been referred to the Judi-

ciary Committee. Congressmen have discovered that finding a solution to the problem of developing responsible publications in a democratic society and refraining from censorship of the press has never been an easy job.

The burden of proof as to whether material is obscene is to be determined by "normal, reasonable and prudent" citizens, if these bills are passed. A flood of pornographic publications which have appeared on newsstands in every section of the country in recent years, has caused concerned parents to insist that something be done to dam up this flood of obscenity.

These measures would supplement legislation passed in the 85th Congress. The last Congress passed a bill which permits the lodging of charges and the prosecution of sellers of salacious publications at the point where the material is received.

SESSION STILL YOUNG

Introduction of further bills on the above issues is expected in this session of Congress, and will be reported on these pages.

Some other types of legislation needed are the following:

—Further measures to curb gambling.

—Control measures to prevent the sale and use of alcoholic beverages at armed service installations.

—Legislation to provide education for children about the harmful effects of tobacco.

PROGRAM TIPS

For ready reference, the chairmen of the committees mentioned above are listed. For a more complete listing get a copy of *Register Christian Opinion.*

House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, Rep. Oren Harris (D., Ark.)

Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, Sen. Lister Hill (D., Ala.)

House Ways and Means Committee, Rep. Wilbur D. Mills (D., Ark.)

House Rules Committee, Rep. Howard W. Smith (D., Va.)

House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, Rep. Tom Murray (D., Tenn.)

House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Emanuel Celler (D., N. Y.)

CONFERENCE CHAIRMEN

1. Send a list of the pending bills to pastors and Commission chairmen urging them to get in touch with their congressmen and committee chairmen concerning each bill.

2. Immediately contact your own congressman and the proper committee chairman. Indicate your support of the alcohol legislation and the measures to curb pornographic literature.

3. At the same time, urge the defeat of the lottery measures.

DISTRICT CHAIRMEN

1. A letter or telegram to your congressman in reference to each bill is needed at this time.

2. Contact all pastors and Commission chairmen in your district urging them to write to their congressmen and the committee chairman.

COMMISSION CHAIRMEN

1. Personal contact with congressmen is best. If this is not possible, send a telegram, call or write.

2. Discuss all the bills in your commission meeting; then ask each member of the Commission to send a personal letter expressing his views on the legislation discussed.

Bishop Charles W. Brashares, Illinois Area, writes from Accra, Ghana—

To me here, abstinence is a kind of badge of merit. In the hotel dining room or on the plane, I watched while the waiter or stewardess took orders for wine or cocktails. In this land drinking water is hard to get, many people who are total abstainers at home are not so careful.

If they refuse all liquors, I know they are Moslems, Methodists, or missionaries of some sort.

If they are not in Moslem garb I go right over and greet them and have thus become acquainted with many distinguished people from all over the world.

Query

QUESTION: What is the most important thing to remember when writing letters to legislators?

ANSWER: Use your own thoughts and ideas, expressed in your own words.

Here are six good rules to follow when writing your Congressman:

1. Your *first* letter should be of a positive nature, if possible. Support of a legislator's stand is as important as criticism.

2. Write about *one point,* or *one piece of legislation* in one letter. That way it is easier for your Congressmen to stand "for" or "against" on any issue. Also, it is harder for him to avoid answering some of your questions.

3. Ask for a reply showing where your Congressman stands on an issue and why. If you ask simple "yes" or "no" questions, you will probably get simple "yes" or "no" answers.

4. Write a useful letter which is courteous and brief. A well-written, thought-through letter in which you tell your Congressman your own ideas and the reasons for your viewpoint, will gain his attention and respect.

5. If possible, base your letter on your own pertinent experience and observations. If you have a special connection or experience with the subject on which you write, tell him so—with humility.

6. Your letter may be typed or handwritten; use your usual method of letter writing.

Letters should be addressed as follows:

The Honorable John B. Doe
Senate Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.
Dear Senator Doe:

The Honorable Jack A. Smith
House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.
Dear Mr. Smith:

SAMPLE LETTER:

The Honorable John B. Doe
Senate Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Doe:

I appreciate your willingness to work for passage of legislation which favorably affects the general welfare of the people of_____and our nation. I should like to urge you to support a measure presently before the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

The bill is S. 000. As you know, it would control the volume of alcohol advertising entering our home by prohibiting the interstate transportation of alcoholic beverage advertising materials.

As a parent, I am interested in the power of advertising over my children. Alcohol advertising is false and misleading, yet I am powerless to protect my children from it. It is aimed at young people with the idea of developing an expanding market and thereby increasing consumption.

Have you ever noticed how alcohol advertisers are unwilling or unable to limit their advertising to telling about their product itself? They must tie it in with success, a happy home, the "American way of life" -- all of which interest our children.

Will you tell me whether you expect this proposal to be reported out of committee shortly? I would appreciate receiving more information on the bill to report to the Methodist Men's group in my church.

Again, let me urge you to support and work actively for the passage of this important measure. May we expect your vote in favor of S. 000?

Sincerely yours,

(signed) John Q. Citizen

HELPING ALCOHOLICS IN YOUR HOME

by Thomas Shipp
Pastor, Lovers' Lane Methodist Church
Dallas, Texas

PITFALLS

1. Avoid preaching and lecturing to the alcoholic.

2. Guard against the holier-than-thou attitude.

3. Do not cover up for or protect the alcoholic.

4. If he should be on the road to recovery and should have a slip, do not make too much of it. He may be only trying you out.

5. Do not "pull" all of the props from under him unless you have stronger supports to replace them.

6. Never argue with him while he is drinking.

7. Do not be too upset when you find he becomes dishonest or begins to blame you for things which are common faults of his.

8. Try not to increase his guilt by showing him up.

9. Do not become jealous of those who are trying to help the alcoholic, whether it be an individual, a doctor or A. A.

10. Do not give up—it will take time to restore the alcoholic to health.

SUGGESTIONS

1. Keep a healthy atmosphere in your home.

2. God has given us two ears and one mouth, and, from this, it is apparent that He intends for us to do twice as much listening as talking. Learn to be a good listener.

3. Try to create new interests. This will help to take up much of the time that was spent in drinking before.

4. Support him in any rehabilitation program which he undertakes.

5. Help him to get plenty of exercise. This will help him to relax.

6. Be patient and hopeful and encouraging. Time is a great healer.

7. Try to keep him from becoming emotionally fatigued.

8. Try to see that he gets plenty of sleep and learns the importance of eating. The lack of food causes nervous fatigue.

9. Stay close to your counselor as well as to your sponsor.

10. Try to help others.

MISCELLANY

IN NEW YORK the Commission on Christian Social Relations passed the following resolution:

Taking note that a Congressman from New York State has repeatedly introduced a bill for the creation of a national lottery before the House of Representatives and urged its passage, and noting further that this same Congressman has proposed and sought the organization of a National Lottery Party;

The Commission on Christian Social Relations of the New York State Council of Churches reaffirms the continuing position of the State Council and its constituent bodies

as quoted in the 1958 Statement on Legislative Principles:

"We affirm the historic position of the New York State Council of Churches and its constituent bodies in opposition to all forms of gambling, legal or illegal, for whatever purposes, by whomsoever conducted.

"We consider the annual influx of bills . . . for various types of lotteries for municipal or state support, or for the support of benevolent organizations, as wrong and antisocial. . . ."

IN NORTH CAROLINA support is mounting for drunkometer legislation. The state Department of Motor Vehicles has asked for a law making a drunkometer test mandatory for persons suspected of drunken driving.

In 1957, 35 per cent of the drivers involved in North Carolina's 932 fatal accidents had been drinking. These accidents caused the deaths of 1,064 persons that year.

A number of newspapers, doctors, and law enforcement officials are backing the measure.

IN CALIFORNIA the University of California has announced that it will start a new training program on its Davis campus. The trainees: would-be experts in brewing technology.

The *Brewers Bulletin* bills this as official acknowledgement of "the statue of the vast malt beverage industry."

To top it, the university is dedicating a miniature brewery to teaching and research in a building housing its department of food technology.

Says the *Bulletin*, "the new training program is the latest important development in the remarkable progress of food technology in the United States."

IN NEW YORK the publication *Travel Items* recorded the offering of a 14 day, all inclusive tour of London and Paris featuring "all the champagne your client can drink." The tour arrangements called for a high flying trip via BOAC air line.

IN CHICAGO it was announced that the top ten brewers doubled their expenditures for advertising between 1952 and 1957.

The 10 suds companies spent about $39,000,000 in 1952 as compared with $70,000,000 in 1957.

The data comes from a new book by Ko Ching Shih, director of marketing services of Grant Advertising agency.

...at your service

(continued from page 2)

Pages in the chart deal with biblical background, history of church concern for social issues, and the "new frontiers" of alcohol problems, family problems, citizenship concerns, economic life, racial tensions, world peace, united nations and social welfare.

The chart closes with the idea that these issues come to focus in each community in one way or another, and that Christians must study the issues, inform others, be a Christian

fellowship, and take specific action to help bring Christ's kingdom on earth.

Cost of the chart, script, and mailing case is $10.00.

CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTORY A complete listing of members of the U. S. Congress and their committee assignments is compiled in the pamphlet REGISTER CHRISTIAN OPINION.

The only directory of its kind, this service to social action leaders wishing to express concerns on national issues is in its 16th annual edition.

Its opening pages carry suggestions on specific steps individuals can take to express their opinions on national and international affairs. Specific steps are included for writing effective letters to Congressional representatives.

"Whatever your opinion—express it," says the pamphlet, then tells how and to whom to write, including information on proper addresses.

Copies of *Register Christian Opinion* are 10 cents each, 12 copies for $1.00, 100 for $7.50 and 1,000 for $50.00.

PACKET Basic resource materials in the social action field have been compiled in a SOCIAL ACTION PACKET, that includes more than a dozen key items.

Subjects covered run the gamut of issues in world peace, temperance and social and economic relations. A copy of REGISTER CHRISTIAN OPINION (above) is included in the packet.

The packet is designed to give Christian Social Relations leaders a start in compiling a library or file of helpful materials in the field and to call attention to other services that are available.

Cost of the packets—10 cents each as single copies or in quantity.

SOCIAL CREED The Methodist Church was the first Protestant Denomination to draw up a printed creed spelling out the church's concern and responsibility for specific social issues. Many of the points of this original were adopted by the Federal Council of Churches and later the National Council of Churches. Some of them remain in the creed as it appears today.

This official statement by the Methodist General Conference is available as a leaflet for general distribution to church members and for study and debate in local churches.

Printed in an attractive format, the SOCIAL CREED is available at $1.50 per 100 copies.

MESSAGE In November, 1958 the Methodist Council of Bishops issued a special "Message to The Methodist Church" on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the first Social Creed (see above).

Beamed to all Methodists, the statement reaffirmed the principles found in the original Social Creed, applying them to issues of the current day.

Said the Bishops, "although the types of problems have changed, the causes and the remedy remain constant."

The full statement is available in printed form. It deals with questions of race, housing, juvenile delinquency, alcohol, foreign policy, disarmament and the United Nations.

It has been reproduced for distribution in local churches and for discussion by youth and adult groups.

Copies are $3.00 per 100.

Books

THE ARMS RACE — By Philip Noel-Baker, Oceana Publications, N.Y.—$6.00.

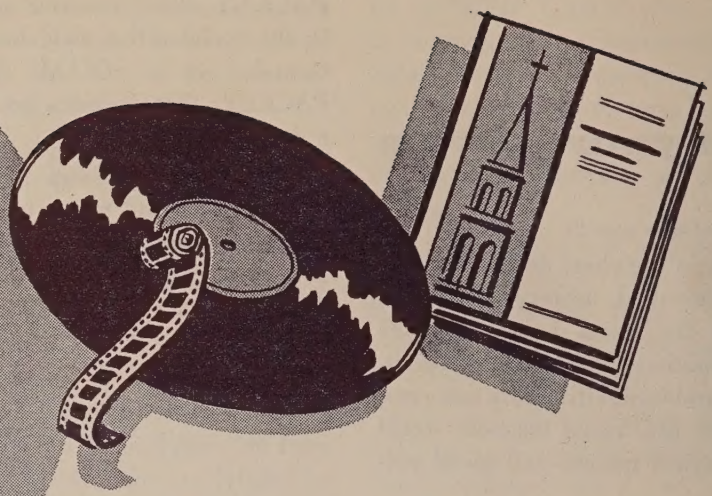
Disarmament is both the most thorny and the most crucial problem of our time. At many moments over the past thirty years, major steps toward disarmament were proposed and possible. In each instance at the crucial moment, Russia, Germany, France, Britain or America drew back due to fear, delaying tactics, diplomatic maneuvering or presumed security risks. Thus, the world drifted on into a pattern of repeated arms races and recurring wars.

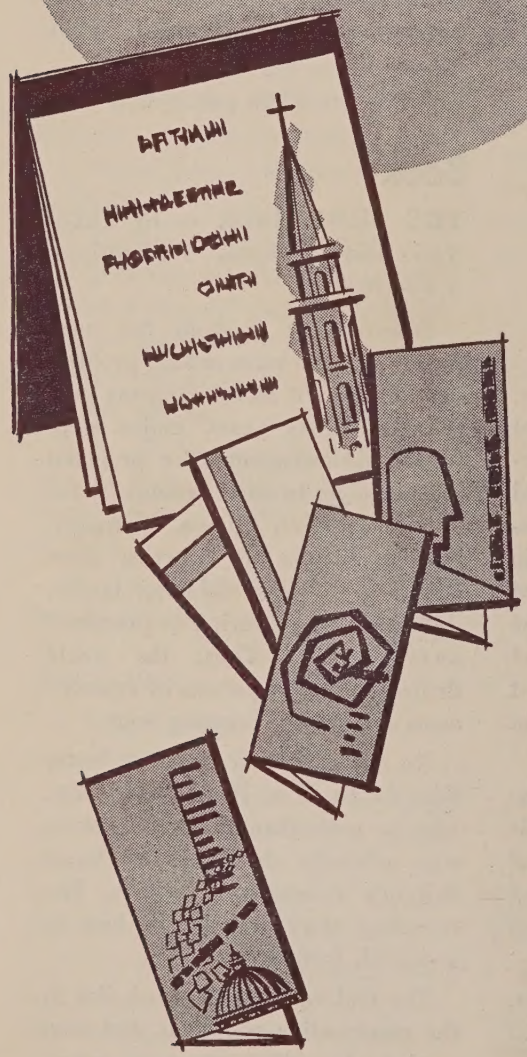
No one could tell the story better than the Rt. Hon. Philip Noel-Baker, who for more than a quarter century was officially involved in Great Britain's disarmament efforts. The revealing story is told by him in a candid, forthright fashion.

The real value of the book lies in the constructive proposals and suggestions by which progress, agreements, and solutions are possible to major nations today. This section of the book fully vindicates the subtitle, "A Programme for World Disarmament." Of the spate of new volumes on peacemaking, it is hard to find another that will challenge "The Arms Race" to head the list.

NEW! for YOU

a Christian Social Relations leader





The following materials have been prepared jointly by three World Service agencies of The Methodist Church – General Board of Social & Economic Relations, General Board of Temperance, General Board of World Peace.

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR? — $.25
32 page handbook for the Commission on Christian Social Relations

NEW KIND OF BUILDING — $6.00
35mm color filmstrip with 33⅓ rpm record, script & leader's guide

YOUR CHURCH SERVES THE COMMUNITY & WORLD — $10.00
25 page turnover chart spelling out issues and action for Commission on Christian Social Relations

REGISTER CHRISTIAN OPINION — $.10 $7.50 per 100 copies
leaflet listing U. S. Congressmen and Senators with committee assignments. Suggests action on national issues

SOCIAL ACTION PACKET — $.10 10c each in quantity
selection of resource leaflets for local church Commission on Christian Social Relations

THE SOCIAL CREED — $.03 $1.50 per 100 copies
statement of the official position of The Methodist Church on specific social issues

CONTACT — $3.00 per year
a twice monthly news service for church leaders

BISHOP'S MESSAGE — $3.00 per 100 copies
a current statement on social issues by the Methodist Council of Bishops

Order these materials for your church from

THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT

The Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue Northeast, Washington 2, D. C.